



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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For immediate release

1. Confinements, manure applicators – call DNR for assistance

CONFINEMENTS, MANURE APPLICATORS -- CALL DNR FOR ASSISTANCE

DES MOINES – A producer in Floyd County might have avoided a notice of violation from the DNR if he had called the DNR before land applying manure.

Hog producer Larry Tjaden of Colwell was faced with an overfull manure storage structure on Friday and his commercial applicator wasn't available. Instead of calling the DNR or another applicator, Tjaden improperly land applied more than 7,000 gallons of manure one-fourth acre last Sunday.

"This is one of those cases where it would really have benefited the producer to call the DNR before the manure storage was completely full," said Ken Hessenius, enforcement coordinator for DNR's animal feeding operations. "Our field office staff can offer suggestions that would have allowed the producer to comply with the law."

Instead the DNR will issue a notice of violation to Tjaden for insufficient capacity for manure storage, failure to use a certified manure applicator and over application of manure.

Hessenius urges producers and certified manure applicators to contact a regional DNR office if they are facing a situation where manure cannot be legally applied.

"Our field office staff is experienced in these situations," he said. "Many times our folks have figured out an alternative solution that protects the environment and keeps the individual in compliance."

Please contact one of the DNR field offices for technical assistance:

Manchester (563) 927-2640

Mason City (641) 424-4073
Spencer (712) 262-4177
Atlantic (712) 243-1934
Des Moines (515) 725-0268
Washington (319) 653-2135

The manure that Tjaden applied did not reach a stream or lake. The DNR will consider further legal action as appropriate.

Hessenius added that manure releases must be reported to the DNR within six hours of their onset or discovery by calling the 24-hour spill line at (515) 281-8694.

Media Contact: Cindy Garza, at the Mason City DNR office, (641) 424-4073.